



Children First

Dovecote Admissions Criteria

First admission to infant/primary schools criteria: 2017/18

In the event of oversubscription within any of the criteria listed below, preference will be given to applicants who live closest to the school, as measured in a straight line (i.e. as the crow flies) from a point at the school campus to a point at the pupil's home, both identified by the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (by a computerised geographical information system). Where two or more pupils are equal in all respects, and it is therefore not possible to differentiate between them, a method of random allocation by drawing lots will be used to allocate places (supervised by someone independent of the School Admissions Team).

Pupils who have a Statement of Special Educational Need, where that school is named in the child's statement will be admitted. In this event, the number of places that remain available for allocation will be reduced.

1. Places will first be allocated to pupils looked after by the local authority or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions in accordance with section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989. An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'residence order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).
2. Places will then be allocated to pupils who, at the closing date for applications, live within the catchment area*, whose parents have requested a place at the school and who, at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the school or the linked junior school, or Individual Needs Centre.
3. Places will then be allocated to other pupils who, at the closing date for applications, live within the catchment area* and whose parents have requested a place at the school.
4. Places will then be allocated to pupils who live outside the catchment area, whose parents have requested a place at the school and who, at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the school or the linked junior school or Individual Needs Centre.
5. Places will then be allocated to other pupils who live outside the catchment area whose parents have requested a place at the school.

*This relates to those pupils living in the catchment area for the school set for the 2017/18 school year.

The above criteria (2-5) may be overridden and priority given to an applicant who can establish any of the following:

- pupils with special educational needs that can only be met at a specific school (e.g. where the school has specialist provision)**;
- children of travellers, pupils with exceptional medical, mobility, or social grounds that can only be met at a specific school*.

**Applications in these categories must be supported by a statement in writing from a doctor, social worker or other relevant professional. This is necessary because you will be asking the Authority to assess your child as having a stronger case than other children. Each case will be considered on its merits by the Corporate Director of Children and Families (or his nominated representative) in consultation with the school concerned.

With the exception of pupils in year 6 waiting lists will be maintained until the summer half-term 2018 for all other year groups for community and voluntary controlled primary schools which are oversubscribed for the academic year. (Waiting lists will not be maintained for year 6).

For admission purposes the Local Authority considers a sibling connection to relate to any of the following:

- a brother or sister who share the same parents;
- a half brother or sister, where two children share one common parent;
- a step brother or sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- adopted or fostered children living in the same household under the terms of a Residence Order.

Where applications are received in respect of twins, triplets or children of other multiple births, the authority will endeavour to offer places in the same school, admitting above the planned admission number where necessary. If this is not possible, the parent/carer will be asked which child(ren) should take up the place(s). The parent/carer will still have a right of appeal against a refusal of a place.

Any parent/carer whose child is refused a school place for which they have applied has the right of appeal to an independent appeals panel***. (Full details will be provided at the time of refusal).

***(Except, the parent/carer of a child who has been permanently excluded from two schools and where at least one of those exclusions took place after 1 September 1997. This applies to a twice excluded pupil for a period of two years beginning with the date the last exclusion took place).

Attendance at a particular nursery does not guarantee admission to the main school for infant/primary education. All applications for admission to the main school must be made to the Local Authority and will be considered against the oversubscription criteria listed in 1-6 above.